

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 03751 01 OF 02 271028Z

12

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00 /025 W

----- 072429

R 270930Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1358

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 JIDDA 3751

DEPT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (KENNEDY, EDWARD M.)

SUBJ: CODEL KENNEDY

REF : JIDDA 3709

1. DURING SENATOR KENNEDY'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA MAY 21-24
LOCAL NEWSPAPERS CARRIED NUMEROUS STORIES ABOUT HIS ARRIVAL,
DEPARTURE AND CALLS ON KING KHALID AND OTHER SAUDI OFFICIALS.
FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN INTERVIEW BY THE SPA WITH THE
SENATOR WHICH TOOK PLACE ON MAY 23 AND APPEARED IN AL-RIYADH
DAILY ON MAY 24. EMBASSY TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

Q: WAHT ARE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESULTS OF YOUR TALKS WITH
KING KHALID, PRINCE FAHD AND THE SAUDI OFFICIALS, AND WHAT WERE
THE MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS OF YOUR DISCUSSION?

A: LET ME SAY IT WAS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR A MEMBER OF THE
U.S. SENATE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH SAUDI LEADERS. I AM VERY
GRATEFUL FOR THE WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY WHICH THE KING AND
THE ROYAL FAMILY HAD BESTOWED ON ME AND MY FAMILY. MY DIS-
CUSSIONS WITH THE KING WERE FRANK AND OUR EXCHANGE OF OPINION
HAS COVERED DIFFERENT SUBJECTS RELATED TO JUST PEACE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE KINGDOM AND OTHER
ISSUES. I WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY THE HONESTY AND SINCERITY
OF THE LEADERS WITH WHOM I HAVE MET, AND BY THEIR INTEREST IN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JIDDA 03751 01 OF 02 271028Z

THE PERMANENCE OF GOOD HISTORICAL RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.,

BESIDES THEIR KEEN INTEREST IN THE FUTURE OF PEACE IN THE AREA.

Q: HOW WOULD YOU ENVISION THE CONTRIBUTION OF U.S. EXPERTISE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SAUDI DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND WHAT IMPLICATIONS WOULD THIS HAVE ON FOSTERING OF TRADITIONAL FRIENDLY U.S.-SAUDI RELATIONS?

A: I BELIEVE THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD WELCOME THE CHANCE TO CONTRIBUTE U.S. TECHNOLOGY TO HELP THE SAUDI PEOPLE IN THEIR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. I HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED THIS EARLIER IN THE SENATE, AND BEING A MEMBER THEREOF, I WOULD WELCOME ANY INITIATIVE BY U.S. BUSINESSMEN AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND WOULD WELCOME THE SETTING OF THE STAGE FOR ANY POTENTIAL CHANCE FOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF TECHNOLOGY AND KNOW HOW. I THINK THIS IS VERY SIGNIFICANT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE KINGDOM AND ALSO FOR THE U.S.

Q: MR. SCHLESINGER A FEW DAYS AGO DECLARED THAT THE U.S. MIGHT ADOPT MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST ARAB OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN CASE OF A NEW OIL EMBARGO. TO WHAT EXTENT DOES THIS STATEMENT REFLECT U.S. OFFICIAL POLICY VIEWS?

A: LET ME EXPRESS MY OWN IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL WAS ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF MILITARY INTERVENTION. AT AN EARLIER DATE THE SECRETARY OF STATE GAVE SIMILAR REMARKS. AND NOW I WOULD LIKE TO REPEAT WHAT I HAVE SAID TO THE PEOPLE OF MASSACHUSETTS WHOM I REPRESENT. WHENEVER I WAS ASKED ABOUT THE DECISION, I USED TO SAY THAT WHAT WE OUGHT TO REALIZE, WHETHER WE ACCEPT IT OR NOT, IS THAT OIL BELONGS TO SAUDI ARABIA AND TO COUNTRIES IN THAT PART OF THE WORLD. IT IS THEIR OIL AND WE HAVE NO RIGHT NOR ANY REASON TO CONSIDER TAKING MILITARY ACTION. AS I HAVE TOLD THIS TO THE MASSES WHOM I REPRESENT, I THINK IT IS APPROPRIATE TO RELATE MY VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT TO OUR FRIENDS IN SAUDI ARABIA AND TO EMPHASIZE THAT MY VIEWS REPRESENT, TO AN EXTENT, THE VIEWS OF THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. I HAD ALREADY INDICATED THAT I AM NOT GOING TO BE THE MEMBER OF THE SENATE WHO WOULD SEND OUT THE RESIDENTS OF MASSACHUSETTS TO FIGHT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 JIDDA 03751 01 OF 02 271028Z

IN A MILITARY VENTURE LIKE THIS.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED BAGHDAD.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 03751 02 OF 02 271046Z

12

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00 /025 W

----- 072552

R 270930Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1359

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 JIDDA 3751

DEPT PASS BAGHDAD

Q: IN THIS CASE HOW WOULD YOU RECONCILE SUCH STATEMENTS AND
THE U.S. ANNOUNCED POLICY OF MAKING EVERY EFFORT TOWARDS PEACE
IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

A: AS I SAID BEFORE, IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR A PERSON TO
CRITICIZE HIS OWN GOVERNMENT WHILE HE IS TRAVELING ABROAD.
WHAT I AM SAYING HERE IN SAUDI ARABIA IS WHAT I SAID IN THE
U.S., BUT TO THOSE WHOM I REPRESENT I FURTHER SAID THAT SUCH
STATEMENTS WERE FUTILE AND WOULD NOT BRING US ANY CLOSER TO
PEACE.

Q: THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL CONVICTION IN THE ARAB WORLD THAT
THE U.S. IS ABLE TO FIND A JUST AND DURABLE SOLUTION TO THE
MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. HOW TRUE IS THIS CONVICTION AND WHAT
IN YOUR OPINION SHOULD BE THE ROLE THE U.S. SHOULD PLAY IN
ORDER TO ACHIEVE A SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT?

A: I PERSONALLY DON'T BELIEVE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST COULD
BE IMPOSED BY ANY FOREIGN POWER, INCLUDING THE SUPERPOWERS.
PEACE WILL BE FOUND IF ALL THE VARIOUS INTERESTS IN THE AREA
ARE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. AND I THINK THIS IS QUITE
UNDERSTOOD BY THE COUNTRIES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. PER-
SONALLY I FEEL PEACE COULD BE REACHED EVENTUALLY BY ALL
THE CONCERNED PARTIES, AND I BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE
FOR THE U.S. TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE AND POSITIVE ROLE THAT
PAVES THE WAY FOR PEACE. I AM VERY HOPEFUL THAT HER INFLU-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JIDDA 03751 02 OF 02 271046Z

ENCE COULD BE USED TO ACCELERATE THE BRINGING ABOUT OF THAT JUST PEACE SO DESIRED BY THE AREA'S INHABITANTS. THIS IS THE ROLE THE U.S. CAN ASSUME.

Q: THE U.S. PRESS SAYS YOU ARE GOING TO RUN IN THE COMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1976, THOUGH YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY SAID YOU ARE NOT. HOW WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THIS, AND WHAT ARE YOUR STIPULATIONS REGARDING YOUR CANDIDACY?

A: AS I'VE POINTED OUT IN THE STATES AND TO MY VOTERS, I SHALL NOT RUN IN THAT ELECTION. I REALIZE THAT CONDITIONS MIGHT MAKE ME CHANGE MY MIND. I HAVE EVERY INTENTION OF BEING AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE U.S. SENATE, WHICH IS SO BENEFICIAL IN THE FIELDS OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY. I HOPE TO BE A CONSTRUCTIVE FORCE WITHIN MY OWN PARTY SO THAT MY PARTY'S PLATFORM FOR THE 1976 ELECTIONS MAY FOCUS ON THE PEOPLES' REQUIREMENTS IN THE U.S., BESIDES A PROGRAM FOR WORLD PEACE.

Q: DON'T YOU THINK THAT ALMOST 30 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS STRUGGLE AIMED AT PERSONIFYING THE PALESTINIAN IDENTITY THROUGH THE PLO, FOR EXAMPLE IN PARTICULAR, QUALIFIES THAT ORGANIZATION TO PARTAKE OF ANY PEACE EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND DON'T YOU THINK THAT IT IS HIGH TIME TO RECOGNIZE THE PLO?

A: I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE AND POSITIVE TO RESPOND TO THIS QUESTION. HOWEVER, IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT PALESTINIAN INTERESTS ARE SOMETHING THAT ALL CONCERNED PARTIES RECOGNIZE. WHAT IS IMPORTANT ULTIMATELY IS HOW THESE INTERESTS COULD REFLECT AND MATERIALIZE THROUGH THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSIONS. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE BEST MEANS TO ASSURE THAT THEIR INTERESTS HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED AND THEIR RIGHTS HAVE BEEN SECURED.

AKINS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED BAGHDAD.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JIDDA03751
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750184-0638
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750517/aaaaapik.tel
Line Count: 204
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 JIDDA 3709
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL KENNEDY
TAGS: OREP, (KENNEDY, EDWARD M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006